(e) The Union Government is actively pursuing and monitoring the progress made in the matter with the State Governments. The State Governments have agreed to enact necessary legislation before 24th April, 1994 and have already taken steps in this direction.

Schemes for Removal of Backwardness and Unemployment in U.P.

3245. SHRI SHIV PRATAP MISHRA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have formulated any scheme for removal of backwardness and unemployment from the rural areas of Uttar Pradesh; and

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard and what progressive steps have been taken so far in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT) (SHRI UTTAMBHAI PATEL): (a) and (b) Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP) and Jawahar Rozgar Yojana (JRY) are major poverty alleviation programmes being implemented by the Ministry of Rural Development in various States/Uts. including Uttar Pradesh.

The main objective of IRDP is to enable selected families of target group in the rural areas, who are below the poverty line, to take up income generating assets. It is a self-employment programme which is being implemented in all the blocks all over the country since October, 1980 including Uttar Pradesh. Since inception of this programme, roughly 85 lakhs families have been assisted in Uttar Pradesh. To make the programme more effective and useful for the beneficiaries, certain steps like revision in the ceiling limit of subsidy; introduction of Cash Disbursement Scheme; launching of pilot project of Family Credit Plan; better linkage for IRDP beneficiaries; etc. have been initiated for the benefit of the beneficiaries.

JRY is another poverty alleviation programme of the Central Government which aims at generating additional gainful employment for unemployed and under-employed persons in the rural areas. From 1993-94, a new scheme called 'Intensified' JRY is being implemented in 120 identified backward districts of the country including 12 districts of Uttar Pradesh where there is concentration of unemployment and under-employment. Besides, the Ministry of Rural Development has also launched Employment Assurance Scheme (EAS)' with effect from 2nd October, 1993 in 1755 RPDS (Revamped Public Distribution System) blocks of the country including 145 blocks in Uttar Pradesh. These blocks are located in remote and backward areas of the country. Under this scheme, 100 days of casual manual work is provided for the persons who are in need of work and seeking it in the rural areas during the lean agricultural season.

3246. [*Transferred to 18th April* 1994.]

Utilisation of Funds released under drinking water Mission

3247. SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether any enhanced amount under the Drinking Water Mission will be given to the States utilising the amounts property;

(b) which States have asked for enhanced amounts to sugment the drinking water supply; and

(c) the status of Andhra Pradesh in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT) (SHRI UTTAMBHAI PATEL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The State Governments of Andhra Pradesh, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Gujarat, Jammu and Kashmir, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh and Tamil Nadu have asked for enhanced amounts to sugment the drinking water supply.

(c) The State Government of Andhra Pradesh has asked for enhanced allocation of atleast Rs. 71.00 crores as against the total central assistance of Rs. 55 crores, so as to complete more schemes during the year.